

Serial Number 10/749,566

REMARKS


Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested on the grounds that claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 3 and intervening claim 2, claim 3 having been indicated as allowable on page 5 of the Official Action.

The rejections under 35 USC §103(a) are moot in view of the amendments to claim 1.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC



By: BENJAMIN E. URCIA
Registration No. 33,805

Date: April 22, 2005

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, 4th Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: (703) 683-0500

NWB:S:\Producer\ben\Pending 1...PL\LA\ 749566\w02.wpd